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PARTICULARS

RELATING TO THE

LIFE and CHARACTER

OF THE LATE

BROCKHILL NEWBURGH, Esq;

Grand Father of Ann Sarah Boyd
of Newburgh

Wrote at the Instance of several of his surviving
FRIENDS.

——— *Examplar vitæ morumq; jubebo* HOR.

Printed in the YEAR M,DCC,LXI.

BRITISH MUSEUM

PARTICULARS, &c.

CUSTOM has in ſome meaſure made it neceſſary for the writer of private memoirs, to give ſome account of the family and anceſtors of the perſon who is the ſubject of them. However foreign ſuch an Enquiry may be, the reader expects to have his curioſity ſatisfied, and therefore muſt not be diſappointed. Let it be remembered however by thoſe that pique themſelves upon their families, that a boaſted lineage can confer no real merit or honour; and that the worth of dignified anceſtors, too often ſerves only to reproach the degeneracy of their deſcendants.

I have heard it ſaid that the *Newburghs* are deſcended from the *Novo de Burgos*, that came into *England* with the Conqueror; and that ſeveral peers, both *Britiſh* and *German*, that bear the name or title, do honour to the family. But the writer of the following pages is a ſtranger to any ſuch genealogies, and claims the honour of no kindred, where he is not able to trace or aſcertain the degrees of Affinity. But to quit conjectures.

* The firſt anceſtor I find any clear account of in the family, is *John Newburgh* of *Booth-Francis* in *Dorſetſhire*, who

* See the Heralds books in *London*.——'Tis from theſe regiſters, and more particularly from the relations of the reverend Mr. *Charles Newburgh*, late rector or *Coleſhill* in *Warwickſhire*, and uncle to the late *Brockhill Newburgh*, that the greater part of theſe earlier accounts of our family have been derived. He died about thirty years ſince, but ſtill

who lived in the reign of Queen ELIZABETH, and was poſſeſſed of a very conſiderable Eſtate in that county. I have heard it ſaid that he was a man of genius and letters, and had diſtinguiſhed himſelf by ſome literary productions, which had he longer lived, he intended to have publiſhed. He died about the middle of the above mentioned reign, and left his eſtate to his eldeſt ſon, commonly called by his cotemporaries, *John* the Chymiſt. This Gentleman, tho' otherwiſe a man of ſenſe, is ſtill remembered in the family, as having been obliged to ſell much the greater part of his paternal eſtate, which he unhappily ſacrificed to the prevailing humour of the times in which he liv'd, *viz.* a diſquiſition into that vain, and long pretended ſecret of converting the baſeſt metals into gold.—In this manner, 'tis ſaid, he propoſed to have filled the king's exhauſted coffers, and to have made that prince, (*James* I.) the wealthieſt, as well as what he had made himſelf, the moſt pacific Monarch in *Europe*. But alas! like *Ben Johnſon*'s Alchymiſt, (from whom the character might very juſtly have been taken) he lived to find his projects beguile him, and to prove as injurious to his health, as deſtructive and ruinous to his fortune. Some remains of this projecting humour, though in very different, and leſs extravagant turns, have been thought ſtill to ſubſiſt in ſome branches of the family, too well known to be here particularly pointed out.

What remained unſold of *John*'s paternal eſtate, deſcended to his heir at law, Col. *Thomas Newburgh* *,

lives in the memory of his ſurviving friends, as a perſon whoſe learning, goodneſs, and truly chriſtian piety, made him an ornament to the church, as well as dear to all who had the happineſs to know him.

burgh *, and from him in a lineal deſcent, to its preſent poſſeſſor, *Thomas*, the eldeſt ſon of *Brockhill*.

This Gentleman, Col. *Thomas Newburgh*, was the firſt of our family who ſettled in *Ireland*. He left *England* at the inſtances of lord *Strabane*, who honoured him with the higheſt marks of his friendſhip and eſteem, having perſonally negotiated a treaty of marriage between his eldeſt ſon *Thomas*, father of *Brockhill*, and *Elizabeth*, daughter of *Claudius Hamilton*, then lord *Barrymore*, by *Jane*, daughter of —— *Gordon*, marquis of *Huntley*. The marriage took effect, but the honour of the alliance did not long ſubſiſt, that lady having died without iſſue about nine months after her intermarriage.

Thomas, the father of *Brockhill*, juſt mentioned, ſoon after married *Mary*, the daughter of *John Taylor*, a co-heireſs with her ſiſter *Elizabeth*, by whom the eſtate of *Ballybaiſe* came into the Family, and in which it has ſince continued. *Thomas* had a numerous iſſue by his wife *Mary*.—His eldeſt ſon *Thomas* died without iſſue, whereby the eſtate of *Ballybaiſe* deſcended to his younger brother *Brockhill*.—*Thomas*, the father, made large additions to his fortune, and was remarkable for the ſanctity of his life and manners, whatever tincture they might happen to receive from the puritanical *temper* of the times in which he lived. But this humour went no farther than to his own perſon, all his children having

* Col. *Thomas Newburgh* had three ſons;—to his two younger ſons, *Arthur* and *Charles*, he left thoſe eſtates purchaſed by him in the counties of *Donegal*, *Wexford*, and *Kilkenny*, which are ſtill poſſeſſed by his deſcendants. *Arthur* left a daughter, not many years deceaſed, from whom our relations, the *Hamiltons* in the *North* are deſcended.

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been brought up in the communion of the church of *England*, in which they ſteadily lived, and as piouſly died. His charities were great and extenſive, and would have received no allay, had he treated his eldeſt ſon *Thomas*, (a Gentleman of the firſt genius and abilities) with the ſame indulgence he ſhewed to the reſt of his family.

Brockhill married *Mary* the Daughter of Col. *William Moore*, who was appointed by *Cromwell*, governor of *Jamaica*, upon *Venable*'s diſgrace and ill ſucceſs at the *Havanna*. Col. *Moore*'s wife, with all his iſſue by her, were caſt away, and unhappily periſhed in their voyage from *Jamaica* to *Ireland*. In the ſame ſhip were alſo embarked, a great part of the governor's effects and treaſures, which with the unhappy ſufferers all went to the bottom.

By a ſecond venter, he had his daughter *Mary*, the wife of *Brockhill*, of whom more hereafter. On this ſide the houſe, we had the honour of being nearly related to Sir *John Davies*, then attorney-general of *Ireland*, * whoſe account of that country is by much the moſt authentic of any of the times; and by the ſtile and manner in which it is wrote, ſhews the uncommon genius and abilities of that great ſage in the law, its juſtly eſteemed Author.

The reader may here expect an apology for Col. *Moore*'s acting under a commiſſion derived from an uſurper; eſpecially as that gentleman, with the anceſtors of our family on both ſides, ſince the earlieſt times of the reformation, had been bred and educated within the pale of the eſtabliſhed Church. But this

* See the preface to Sir *J. Davies*'s Reports.

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was no more than the beſt and wiſeſt men of the times, particularly the great Chief Juſtice *Hale*, had done before him. And who could pretend to diſpute an authority, that had not only over-awed loyalty at *home* but had given its dictates to the firſt and mightieſt potentates of *Europe abroad?*

Loyalty, it is true, like other Virtues is fixed and permanent. But the obligations of duty, however ſettled, will be found in moſt caſes to vary, according to the many and different circumſtances that attend them. And ſince a directing or permiſſive Providence governs all human events, it would be little leſs than madneſs, for private perſons to attempt to bring about public Revolutions ;—or not to ſubmit to an authority, which the ſame over-ruling power, by means, often the leaſt expected, can only defeat, or put an end to *.

But without entering farther into caſuiſtical diſquiſitions, 'tis certain Col. *Moore* had for ſome years before the death of *Cromwell*, ſerved him with a ſenſible reluctance.—This the uſurper obſerved, and for that reaſon, ſent him to *Jamaica*, where, at ſo great a diſtance, he could have no apprehenſions, that thoſe uncommon abilities with which he had been ſerved, ſhould at any time hereafter be employed againſt him. This change of ſentiments and diſpoſition, was by no means peculiar to Col. *Moore*. Many others were in the ſame way of thinking ;—who, however freely, they might at firſt have entered into the ſervice of the parliament, and

* By an Act paſſed in the reign of *Hen.* VII. allegiance is made payable to the king *de facto*, or regnant prince, and any act of rebellion againſt him is made high treaſon, and will remain ſuch, 'till pardoned by the king *de jure*.

Cromwell

Cromwell, their general, were now tired of that uſurped deſpotic government, which had ſubverted the conſtitution, and had made the Reſtoration of the royal family the juſt object of almoſt univerſal deſire. But to come to the more immediate Subject of theſe papers.

In the beginning of the late happy revolution, when the war broke out in *Ireland*, the late *Brockhill Newburgh* prompted by that truly proteſtant zeal, which he had inherited from his *Engliſh* anceſtors, being then in the iſland of *Inch*, in the county of *Donegal*, did, at his own private charge, raiſe an independent company for the ſervice of the late king *William* of ever glorious memory, which was afterwards incorporated in a marching regiment, then commanded by the late general *Stuart*.

He was preſent, attending the duty of his ſervice, in *moſt* of the engagements which afterwards happened in *Ireland*; and thus helped to defend that religion, then attacked by *popiſh* powers, which his life and actions ſerved afterwards to adorn.

At this time the city of *London-Derry* was *cloſely* beſieged by the forces of king *James* II. general *Kirk* being then quartered with his regiment in the iſland of *Inch*, within ſeven miles of the town, and there ſtationed to watch the operations of the ſiege, and give ſuch relief to the garriſon, as time and opportunity might make feaſible. Mr. *Newburgh* obſerving with concern the inactivity of this body of men, at a time when he apprehended they might be employed with ſucceſs

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in annoying the beſiegers, (having firſt offered the joint aſſiſtance of his own independent company,) propoſed to the general, under cover of the night, to ſurprize and attack two detached bodies of the enemies troops near the town. The one, ſtationed with a deſign to intercept any proviſions that might be brought to it by land :—the other, to guard a boom or long iron chain, thrown croſs the river, to prevent its receiving any relief whatever by ſea. But this propoſal, however feaſible, or well laid, was by no means agreeable to the pacific diſpoſitions of the general; too ſenſible perhaps of the ſecurity of his ſtation in the iſland, to quit or change it, till actually obliged or compelled. Mr. *Newburgh* however, ſtill perſiſted in urging his propoſal. The general, conſcious of the neglect of his duty, grew outragious "told him he was importunate; might give his "advice when aſked, and that his behaviour was pre-"ſumptuous, arrogant, and intermeddling." Mr. *Newburgh*, far from being intimidated with theſe inſults, or the ſuperior ſtation of the perſon from whom they came, with his uſual firmneſs and reſolution replied, "Sir, "You are ſtationed in this place to watch, as well as to "obſtruct the operations of the ſiege. An opportu-"nity of this kind, now offers, and your neglects in "not making uſe of it, ſhall be repreſented to thoſe "who have a power to enquire into, as well as puniſh "them."

Whether it was upon this or ſome other occaſion that a challenge was ſent; or whether *Kirk*, or general *Stuart*, or which of them was the perſon it was ſent to, is uncertain, (for demands of juſtice and honour he aſſuredly had upon both;) So much however, may from undoubted authority be relied upon, that

upon Mr. *Newburgh*'s laying down his commiſſion, (to which he was afterwards reſtored,) a duel enſued, and that miſchief was only prevented by the interpoſition of the ſeconds *.

But to return. After ſeveral unſucceſsful attempts made by the ſhips of war then in the river, the obſtructing boom (a ſpring-tide and a briſk gale favouring the attempt) was at length broke through, by the enterprizing bravery and reſolution of one Captain *Murray*, the commander of a ſmall private ſhip, with which he effected the breach. The obſtruction now happily removed, the ſhips of war had free acceſs to the town, whereby, after the ſevereſt diſtreſſes of miſery and famine, the beſieged were plentifully ſupplied with proviſions, and the ſiege ſoon after raiſed; though the brave Captain, by a random ſhot from a party of the enemy, poſted on the ſhore, gloriouſly periſhed

* The *Kirk* here ſpoke of, the reader may remember to have read of as one of the principal inſtruments of the late King *James*'s cruelties at the bloody *weſtern Aſſizes*, held principally for the trial of the rebels under the unhappy Duke of *Monmouth*. Many hundreds of theſe unfortunate perſons he ordered to be executed, without either trial or examination. He is further known to have quit the ſervice of his firſt maſter, King *James* the 2d, for that of King *William*, who upon favourable recommendations received him kindly, and appointed him one of his major-generals. Biſhop *Burnet* tells us, he was ſtationed with his regiment in the neighbourhood of *Londonderry*, in order to be aſſiſting in relieving the town; that he afterwards was appointed to command the king's ſhips in the river, for the ſame purpoſe, but made not that haſte to relieve the garriſon that he might and ought to have done, conſidering the great extremities to which it was reduced. Another Hiſtorian adds, that he lay ſix weeks in the *Lough* or *Harbour* of *Derry*, without even attempting to relieve the beſieged, though reduced to the greateſt diſtreſs.

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in the enterprize *. This well-known incident is the more particularly mentioned in this place, as the ſucceſs attending it, in all probability, put a ſtop to any further enquiries into *Kirk*'s conduct: ſo far I mean as Mr. *Newburgh*'s real or intended repreſentations, might afterwards have affected it.

Mr. *Newburgh* as before obſerved, was preſent, attending the duty of his poſt, in moſt of the actions which happened in *Ireland*; but in that of *Claudy* in the *North*, he was moſt expoſed to danger. At this place, Colonel *Lundy* commanded the proteſtant forces, and ſuffered the enemy, whom with eaſe he might have repulſed, to paſs the river that lay between them and the enemy. The proteſtants, who for the greater part, were an undiſciplined body of men, haſtily aſſembled on the occaſion, and being beſides ill-conducted, were over-powered by the ſuperior numbers of the enemy. Many were killed, and the remainder routed and diſperſed. Mr. *Newburgh* among theſe, like a flying *Parthian*, killed one of the cloſeſt of his purſuers, and afterwards ſaved his life, by leaping into a pool of water, where under cover of ſome ſhrubs that grew on a part of the bank, he continued for ſome hours; till the darkneſs of the night favoured his retreat. After ſome days miſerable ſhifting and wan-

* This account of Capt. *Murray*'s breaking the boom, I had from ſome of the oldeſt inhabitants of the town of *Derry*, ſome of whom had been in the town during the ſiege; and yet the honour of this atchievement with ſeveral circumſtances attending it, is by many of our hiſtorians given to Capt. *Browning* the commander of the *Montjoy* frigate. *Murray* poſſibly might have been his lieutenant, and in conſequence of *ſo glorious a death*, thus complimented by the voice of the people.

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dering, (having firſt in vain attempted to get into the town, already diſtreſſed by its numbers), he had the good fortune to be taken into one of the king's ſhips in the river of *Derry*, where he met with an hoſpitality that revived him, and enabled him with recruited ſpirits to return to the duty of his poſt, as ſoon as the remains of the ſcattered forces at *Claudy* had been re-aſſembled, and put under command *.

I might here add the particular accounts I have heard him give of the battles of *Aghrim* and *Boyne*, in the latter of which, he had the honour to bear a part, as well as I believe in the former. But as our hiſtorians in their circumſtantial accounts of theſe actions, may be properly referred to, it will be unneceſſary to trouble the reader in this place with a more particular detail of them.

Mr. *Newburgh*, when the war was happily ended, found himſelf more at leiſure to attend to his private affairs. At this time *Ireland* was but thinly inhabited with proteſtants; its lands almoſt wholly uncultivated; and the landlord, as well as tenant, lived in thatched mud-wall houſes, haſtily erected for the purpoſes only of preſent convenience. In ſuch unſettled

* Col. *Lundy* was at the beginning of the ſiege, governor of *Londonderry*, where, in a council of war, held upon that occaſion, he warmly inſiſted upon a ſurrender of the town, as by no means tenable. Had he taken the advice which Mr. *Newburgh* propoſed, and earneſtly urged at *Claudy*, the diſaſter which happened at that place would in all probability have been prevented. He was for theſe inſtances of treachery and miſconduct, caſhiered by King *William*, and afterwards retired into *England*, where he ſpent the remainder of his life, in an obſcure but inglorious retreat. *Burnet. Tindal.*

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times, when proteſtant tenants were ſcarcely to be had, Mr. *Newburgh* was one of the many, who found himſelf obliged to keep the greater part of his lands in his own hands. Theſe, with indefatigable induſtry, he incloſed, cultivated, and improved. Large marſhes overflowed with water, and barren hills covered with moſs, were in a few years reclaimed, and turned into paſture, arable, and meadow. Not leſs 'tis computed than a hundred thouſand trees, he planted in groves, orchards, and hedge-rows; ſo that tracts of country, formerly barren wilds, were now covered with foreſt-trees, or appeared with all the ornaments, as well as advantages of profitable culture*.

The affairs of *Ireland* being ſometime happily ſettled, the gentlemen of the country now began to quit their cottages, and build manſion houſes, ſuitable to their eſtates and fortunes. The arts hitherto unknown in *Ireland*, architecture in particular, began to receive encouragement; of which, no gentleman of a private fortune, gave juſter and more uſeful ſpecimens than Mr. *Newburgh*. His dwelling houſe as well as offices being arched throughout, in the upper as well as lower ſtories, are thereby of courſe, free from the danger and power of fire. The compliment that the late Dean *Swift* paid to Mr. *Newburgh* on the planning ſuch a ſingular but uſeful edifice, was as uncommon, as there is reaſon to believe it ſincere, *viz.* That it was not only the beſt, but the *only* houſe he had ſeen in *Ireland*.

* The prevailing humour of theſe times in moſt parts of *Ireland*, ran much into the planting of *Scotch* fir; yet happily, Mr. *Newburgh*'s plantations were not confined to theſe.

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In like manner, at about a quarter of a mile diſtance *from his houſe*, he built a town, in form of a *Circus*; the houſes all arched, with a large circular market-houſe in the center; a building, in the opinion of ſome good judges, not unworthy the plan of a *Vitruvius* or a *Palladio*; and which, (if we may be allowed to compare ſmall things with great) bears no diſtant reſemblance to the *Pantheon* at *Rome*, but with this difference, without the opening of the convex roof at the ſummit, contrived to give light to the latter.

The building of towns in countries that want them, not only raiſes the price of land to the landlord, but has been found to give great encouragement to tillage and manufactures; by giving of proper Marts to the tradeſman and farmer, and cheapening moſt articles of ſubſiſtence to the neighbourhood. For to give employment to the induſtrious poor, Mr. *Newburgh* always apprehended to be one great part of the province of a country gentleman. Purſuant to which diſpoſition, he endeavoured to the beſt of his power to eſtabliſh manufactures upon his eſtate; particularly *that* of the linen; which he had happily begun, in ſome inſtances effected, and in general, greatly encouraged before he died.

Good roads 'tis well known, are as neceſſary to an inland market-town, as a good port to a maritime place of trade. Theſe, though equally beneficial to the public, he *generally* made or repaired, entirely at his own charge. As the old roads were generally circuitous, or otherwiſe run a-croſs the ſteepeſt hills, to avoid theſe,

as well as ſhorten the paſſage, Mr. *Newburgh*, for ſeveral miles about his town, made new roads, inſtead of repairing the old ones: in which undertaking, the rocks, precipices and other obſtructions in his way, ſerved only to animate his reſolution in ſurmounting or removing them. It muſt be allowed however, that to preſerve a ſtrait line, he wou.d ſometimes bring his road a-croſs a ſteep hill; a miſtake of the times, that has been happily avoided by many of the latter overſeers, and is ſtill the more neceſſary both in point of eaſe and convenience to the paſſenger, as wheel carriages are at preſent ſo much more numerous than formerly.

Mr. *Newburgh* as I have heard, was the firſt gentleman that of late years, ſhewed the feaſibleneſs of making firm good roads over bogs. His example has been happily followed by others, and now the beſt roads in *Ireland* have been made over theſe long impaſſable moraſſes.

Mr. *Newburgh* laid out a road about three miles in length, to, and partly thorough a neighbouring county, which had he lived, he intended to have finiſhed at his own private charge. But this uſeful work, was it ſeems reſerved for his ſucceſſor, who, (all to the directing out-lines) at the charge of ſome hundred pounds, without aid or preſentment, made and finiſhed it himſelf.

Mr. *Newburgh* always thought the wants of the poor beſt relieved, by giving that employment he conſtantly did, to their labour and honeſt induſtry; his charities however, were great and exemplary, and appeared in the following inſtances.

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In a year of ſcarcity, (beſides their hire,) he always fed his numerous labourers at his own charge. If their labour in ſuch a year did not diſcharge their rent, he uſually remitted it. In a hall built for the purpoſe, he each *Sunday*, entertained a great part of the poor of the pariſh and others; and on *Sacrament Sundays*, (once a month) gave each an *Engliſh* ſhilling, as well as their dinners. In general collections made for the poor in a dear year, his contributions were truly munificent, and ſhewed rather the ſpirit of a prince, than a private gentleman. In ſuch ſeaſons of ſcarcity, to thoſe of his poor tenants, as were through age or ſickneſs, rendered unable to labour, or were otherwiſe burthened with large families, he gave his grain *gratis*: and to the neighbouring poor that did not live on his lands, he ordered it to be ſold at the loweſt market prices it bore in cheap years.

Tho' he greatly diſcouraged, and ſometimes puniſhed vagrants and impoſtors, yet at his houſe, he never refuſed giving bread to the hungry; and kept a ſervant for that purpoſe, whoſe principal employment was to deal it out to them in proper meaſure and proportion. Thus the law provides food for the priſoner, however great the crimes may be for which he is to ſuffer; and charity will, and ought to relieve the *object*, tho' it has not the opportunity of inquiring into the cauſe, or into the merit or demerit of the *diſtreſs*. If he did not put many to apprenticeſhips, yet he might juſtly claim the merit of making many good tradeſmen: As many of his labourers by his inſtructions, turned out as good maſons, ſlaters, brick-makers, planters,

ters, huſbandmen, and overſeers, as if they had ſerved apprenticeſhips to thoſe particular trades or callings. As a good landlord, he ſeldom let his lands, even to his poorer tenants, at a rack-rent, and therefore as ſeldom had occaſion to diſtrain or eject them; but if at any time he found himſelf obliged to have recourſe to ſuch unwilling extremities, the temporary ſeverity, was generally attended with ſome extraordinary favour or act of humanity on his part, which made a more than ſuitable recompence for the ſeeming hardſhip. An inſtance of this kind occurs to my memory, too remarkable to be paſſed over in ſilence.

In the year 1715, after a long forbearance, and an arrear of ſeveral years rent incurred, Mr. *Newburgh* found himſelf at length obliged to ſerve the tenant with an ejectment. Inſtead of coming to any ſettlement, or even requeſting a further time for payment, the tenant, a hardened ruffian, meditated no leſs a vengeance, than the death of his landlord. Agreeable to his helliſh purpoſe, watching his opportunity, while Mr. *Newburgh* was riding on ſome part of his lands, the ruffian approaching him with a cuſtomary ſalute, drawing his cutteau, attacks him therewith, with repeated and unintermitting blows. Mr. *Newburgh* for ſome time defended himſelf with one of his piſtols, and finding the villain ſtill perſiſting in the attack, having taken aim at his horſe's head, diſcharges it. The ſhot took place as it was directed, and the frighted horſe throwing his head with ſome violence againſt his rider's breaſt, diſmounts him. Mr. *Newburgh* apprehending all danger over, quietly rides off; in the mean time the ruffian remounts his horſe who had been but ſlightly wounded, and ap-

proaching Mr. *Newburgh* in terms of gratitude and acknowledgment, for having given him his life; while Mr. *Newburgh* was wholly off his guard, treacherouſly gives him a ſtroke with his cutteau, and therewith a dangerous wound, which inſtantly covered his face and cloaths with blood. The ruffian immediately rode off, apprehending he had effected by death his iniquitous purpoſe. For the vaſt effuſion of blood, both at the time of receiving the wound, as well as ſome hours after, (for he had four miles to ride home) would in all probability have proved mortal, had not providence, beyond all human hopes, preſerved a life ſo valuable to his friends, his country and family, and happily continued it for many years after.

I am the more particular in the relation of ſo extraordinary an event, to take occaſion from thence to obſerve that Mr. *Newburgh*, (I have often heard him aſſert it) in the courſe of the attack, gave his aggreſſor that undeſerved life, for which he made ſuch baſe, ſuch unnatural returns: And further, for that the ſum or damage recovered in an action of aſſault and battery (500 l.) Mr. *Newburgh* generouſly applied, what he received of it, to the relief of the delinquent, and his wife and numerous family.

He not only employed, but ſhewed himſelf upon all proper occaſions, a generous protector of his poor tenants and others, whoſe diſtreſſes gave any juſt claim to his protection; nor did he ever, in any ſingle inſtance deſert their cauſe, till he had effectually defeated the iniquitous deſigns of their oppreſſors.

It will not be thought extraordinary, that a gentleman of ſuch a ſpirit, ſhould, as I am well informed he did, build and adorn his pariſh church entirely at his own charge, or that he ſhould, in eaſe of the poor pariſhioners, make a laſting proviſion for its repairs. Poſthumous charities are often bequeath'd as commutations for the unrepented ſins of the donor. An imputation; that could not with any appearance of juſtice, be thrown upon Mr. *Newburgh*, who in moſt of his charities proved the living executor of his own beneficence.

His houſe, like his heart, always lay open to his friends and neighbours, where old *Engliſh* hoſpitality prevail'd, without the foppery of *French* refinements. I mean ſuch a well regulated plenty as diffus'd itſelf to the meaneſt domeſtic under his roof.

In his dealings, his exactneſs was uncommon. The creditor, by the punctuality of his payments, was always prevented in his demand. His intereſt was conſtantly paid at the very day it became due, and the creditor, though upon due notice, has often received a principal ſo well ſecured, not without the greateſt reluctance.

Strictly obſervant of his engagements, he could not bear any thing that looked like ſubterfuge or evaſion; I mean any pretence whatever to excuſe or delay the ſtrict performance. He treated what is commonly called a ſlight promiſe, as a jeſuitical diſtinction, an abſolute contradiction in terms. His reſolutions were con-

ſtantly formed with great deliberation ; but when once fixed, like his integrity, were never to be ſhaken.

Agreeable to this firmneſs of mind, and unalterable ſteadineſs, he never quit his friend, when acting honourably, and ſuitable to the duties of that relation. When theſe were violated, or trifl'd with, without being implacable, he always acted with proper ſpirit, and with a freedom of mind that knew no reſerve; for he never whiſpered his reſentments to thoſe unconcerned in them, but without diſtinction of perſons, openly declared and avowed them, to ſuch as happened to be the immediate objects of them. By theſe means he prevented or ſhortened miſunderſtandings where they happened to ariſe, was a ſtranger to the workings of ſmothered anger and jealouſy, (thoſe great diſturbers of timorous reſerved tempers,) and put the ſincerity of his profeſſed friends to the proper teſt, by giving them either an opportunity to explain, or juſtify their conduct, or of otherwiſe ſubmitting it to his cenſures.

As a magiſtrate, he was always ready to hear the complaints of the poor, which he was as prompt to redreſs, as to give a patient *hearing* to; and ſurely to hear the longwinded details and perplexed narratives of the illiterate poor, as well as to make juſt and proper determinations thereon, required that degree of patience and clearneſs of head which it were to be wiſhed came to every magiſtrate's ſhare, however extenſive or limitted his juriſdiction. As a repreſentative for his county in parliament, he diſcharged the truſt repoſed in him with an integrity, which nothing could ſhake:

Nor

Nor did he ever give a *vote* that was not directed by the convictions of his beſt informed judgment.

No man perhaps in a private ſtation of Life, could be more feared, and at the ſame time, more beloved; not only by his own family and dependents, but in ſome meaſure by moſt others that knew him. And if his paſſions were ſometimes warm and vehement, they ſeldom broke out but upon proper and juſtifiable occaſions; to reprove the remiſſneſs of ſervants, or to ſtrike an awe, when neceſſary and proper.

In his converſible character, no man leſs reſerved, more agreeably communicative. His practical knowledge of the world, of the duties of life, and of the proper province of a country gentleman in particular, gave him an ample field. In ſhort, no man unbent the brow more agreeably, or contracted it with a more awful ſeverity, when the purpoſes of reproof or authority made it neceſſary.

As the war in *Ireland* broke out when he was a very young man, his principal ſchool, was that of the world, and in which he profited, and obtained more uſeful knowledge, than many others do, in the profeſſed ſeminaries of learning. In ſpeaking, as well as writing, words never failed him. His ſtile in both, was plain and unaffected, nervous and *laconic*.

If private letters may be ſaid to give the beſt image of the mind of the writer, it may not be foreign to our purpoſe to mention the following particular. In a commiſſion where Mr. *Newburgh* was a party, ſeveral

ral bundles of his letters were found neceſſary to be peruſed. Upon obſerving their great number, one of the commiſſioners declared, he ſhould never have patience to go through half of them. The voluminous taſk he began with reluctance, but proceeded in it with pleaſure; and upon peruſing the laſt, he wiſhed, he ſaid, there had been as many more, for that thoſe he had read, had given him one of the moſt agreeable entertainments of the kind, he had ever met with.

The liberal education of his children, was the object of his conſtant, his greateſt care and concern; and in which he ſpared no expence within the compaſs of his fortune. Learning, he juſtly conſidered, not only as the great imbelliſhment of life, but as a neceſſary preparative to profeſſions of buſineſs; in which character he was deſirous his ſons ſhould appear to the world. 'Tis true, his eldeſt ſon, for many reaſons, could not ſo far reconcile himſelf to the ſtudy and practice of the law as to chuſe to make it his profeſſion, and thereby divert his thought from other purſuits, and ſtudies more agreeable to his genius. How far the acquiſitions of the anceſtor may exempt the family repreſentative from the buſy, and ſometimes over anxious purſuits of life, 'tis not neceſſary here to determine. Let it be ſufficient to obſerve in the caſe before us, that the eldeſt brother, has not leſſened his inheritance, however, he may have added to it, and that though he has declined to act in the buſineſs of a profeſſion, that his time and leiſure have not been unimployed, however undiſturbed by the calls of ambition or avarice.

The

The over prevailing vanity of valuing ourſelves upon family connections, has been already taken notice of. Yet it muſt be allowed, that where the virtues of the *Deſcendant* appear hereditary, that the memory of the *Anceſtor* receives as much honour, as it can be ſuppoſed to convey.

Agreeable this obſervation, and with the public ſuffrage in his favour, I ſhall, I doubt not be excuſed in taking this opportunity to mention *A. N.* youngeſt ſon to the late *Brockhill Newburgh*, and ſecretary to the linen board; whoſe ſtrict integrity, and diligence in the diſcharge of his truſt, joined with an equal capacity, has not only ſhewn him ſuperior to the powers of corruption, but even to the acceptance of a common gratuity.

Perquiſites, 'tis well known, make much the greater part of the profits of moſt offices and employments. Of theſe, ſome may be allowable, others, much the reverſe. But the temptations to gain, ſeldom know where to ſtop, and have ſo far confounded all diſtinctions, that our ſecretary has wiſely judged it the moſt ſafe as well as honourable courſe, to take no perquiſites of any kind whatever; not even in caſes where his extraordinary pains and trouble in behalf of the ſuitor to the board, might make a *gratuity*, no more than a common *debt* of juſtice.

In pecuniary caſes, if the bond or other obligation is diſcharged when the money becomes due, the demands of juſtice are ſatisfied, and can go no further.

If

If the payment is made long before, particularly in caſes where the demand bears no intereſt, 'tis an act of generous humanity, that prefers the preſſing occaſions of the creditor, to any private advantage that can be made of the money.

Such in a ſimilar, but much ſtronger caſe, has been the conſtant practice of *A. N.* for whenever a bounty has been given by the board, (whatever the ſum,) he has always without fee or reward, paid the money upon the firſt application of the ſuitor; ſometimes out of his own pocket, without obliging him, as he juſtly might, to wait for the warrant or order directing the payment, which is ſeldom made out till ſome conſiderable time after *.

Such ſelf-denying meaſures may be looked upon by ſome, as works of ſupererogation; eſpecially in the purchaſer of an employment for a valuable conſideration. It were however to be wiſhed, that our publick pay-maſters and their clerks, were obliged to make their payments when ſtrictly and legally due, and in the mean time would forbear by illegal exactions, to make the publick creditor, the purchaſer of his own money †; often, as dearly, as honeſtly earned.

His worthy maſters, the truſtees, have by no means overlooked the merit of ſuch a diſintereſted conduct in

* Generally, ſix months after, often much longer, or *when in Caſh.*

† The *trading* with the public money, and thereby making overgrown fortunes, (too often at the expence of the public,) is a grievance that loudly calls for redreſs, and which 'tis to be hoped, the wiſdom of the legiſlature, may in due time provide againſt.

their

their ſervant, having diſtinguiſhed him by favours as uncommon, as the integrity he has practiſed; and which, not to take this opportunity to acknowledge, would be inexcuſable ingratitude.

In vain has this faithful ſervant of the public, been attacked by the confederated powers of malice and envy. His accounts have never failed to have been annually paſſed to the ſatisfaction of the board, and every one of its members. Yet theſe accounts, upon the publicly printed ſuggeſtions of one of the ſons of infamy and ſlander, and his no leſs ſhameleſs abettor; for above 20 years paſt, with almoſt infinite toil and labour, have been in various different ſhapes, ſtated, reſtated, examined, re-examined, publicly inquired into by repeated parliamentary orders, and after all, to the ſhame and confuſion of his invidious accuſer, have proved in every ſingle article, the inconteſtible proofs of his exactneſs as well as innocence and integrity.*

He that lurks or lies in wait to ſtab the *perſon*, is an aſſaſſin at *heart*, however he may have failed in the execution of his iniquitous purpoſe. In like manner, he that lurks and lies in wait to ſtab the *reputation*, only with the ſordid view to ſupplant an innocent perſon, or creep into his employment, will I believe be generally allowed to be the blacker criminal of the two, however abortive his ſchemes, or thoſe of his no leſs diſappointed abettor. If life ceaſes to be a bleſſing

* The parliamentary enquiry above-mentioned muſt be allowed to to have been as proper, as the charge upon which it was founded was falſe and injurious. Let the reader therefore be cautioned not to carry his reflections from the author of the libel to the honourable gentlemen in the houſe who detected his calumnies.

when rendered ignominious, and is only deſireable when enjoyed with honour, the terms of this compariſon will be found to be juſt, and in no meaſure over-ſtrained, to ſerve the preſent purpoſe.

Yet this low reptile, has upon every occaſion that has ſince offer'd, been ſerved by the perſon he has thus treated, rather as a friend than an enemy; and has thereby given him an opportunity of manifeſting that forgiving humanity of temper, which none but the moſt generous minds and truly chriſtian diſpoſitions are capable of exerciſing. Wealth, titles and honours, may be,--- too often are, bought and ſold. But the practice of virtue and an incorruptible integrity, give that true nobility, which to be allied to, is an honour;—to recommend as exemplary, no more than a duty to the public.

Praiſe, however juſt, may offend the modeſt ear, eſpecially when the facts upon which it is founded, are thus declared without the knowledge, privity or conſent of the perſon of whom they are related. But when printed libels have been publiſhed *, and officiouſly diſtri-

* In the libel referred to, the truſtees themſelves, though in a more indirect manner, have been as licentiouſly treated, as their ſecretary; yet theſe gentlemen, with an uncommon humanity, have admitted (if I may ſo ſpeak,) the *ſupernumerary* ſervices of this place-monger, as he is commonly called, and in which, I will be ſo generous as to wiſh, he may be enabled to find his account.

It would be an omiſſion, next to an act of injuſtice, not to take this opportunity of acknowledging the generous tenders of friendſhip made by Mr. *Robert Law*, merchant in *Dublin*, to *A. N.* upon the abovementioned occaſion. This gentleman, though before that time an abſolute ſtranger to *A. N.* but touch'd with a humane ſenſe of his ſuppoſed diſtreſs, not only offered him his aſſiſtance in making up his accounts for 20 years paſt, but alſo to lend him any ſum within the compaſs of five thouſand pounds, to enable him to pay the ballance.

diſtributed among the members, of both houſes of parliament; and with theſe, no arts of calumny left unpractiſed; the defence of innocence in a caſe thus circumſtanced, cannot be made too public, nor the iniquitous, though impotent attempts made to blaſt it, too publicly expoſed.—Theſe conſiderations, 'tis hoped, will ſufficiently apologize for this liberty taken, without the conſent or knowledge of the perſon immediately concerned, and excuſe to the reader, the length of this neceſſary digreſſion, from whence 'tis time to return.

About the middle of his life, Mr. *Newburgh*, had the misfortune to loſe one of the beſt, the moſt tender, and valuable wives, that ever man was bleſſed with *. He was always too juſtly ſenſible of the loſs, to think it repairable.—Or, ſuppoſing he had thought otherwiſe, he had too ſenſibly felt the unhappy effects of a divided family intereſt by the ſecond marriage of his father, ever to ſplit upon that rock in his own perſon.

Hereditary law ſuits, with other incumbrances, had indeed in a great meaſure made him a purchaſer of his own eſtate:—and therefore, the leaving a united family intereſt, with fortunes to his children free from diſputes, he eſteemed in the ſcheme and diſpoſition of his affairs, a much greater felicity, than any preſent

lance. After proper expreſſions of acknowledgment, "Sir, ſays *A.* "*N.* I have no eſtate, and therefore have it not in my power to "give you ſecurity. Sir, replys Mr. *Law*, you can write your hand, "and your promiſſory note is all I require." The ballance however, turning out but a ſmall ſum, and not more than uſual, upon ſtating the annual account, there was found no occaſion to make uſe of this generous, and I believe unparalleled inſtance of friendſhip.

* Daughter to Col. *Moore* before-mentioned.

ſatisfaction he might propoſe to himſelf by the alteration of his condition, however otherwiſe deſirable.

From what has been ſaid, the reader may juſtly conclude Mr. *Newburgh* to have been one of the greateſt improvers of any gentleman of an equal fortune in his time. To ſupport a large family,—hoſpitality in his houſe,—exemplary charity to the poor,—to make public high roads at his own charge,—to plant and reclaim large tracts of uncultivated land,—to erect uſeful and ornamental ſtructures, and that upon lands diſputed by law-ſuits, in almoſt every part and parcel,—to eſtabliſh manufactures, and build towns for their encouragement,—at the ſame time to ſupport and educate his children in the moſt liberal manner, both at home and abroad,—theſe were labours that ſeem reſerved for Mr. *Newburgh*'s genius to accompliſh. Yet in the midſt of theſe various, conſtant and uncommon charges, Mr. *Newburgh* made large additions to his paternal inheritance, which with his œconomy and prudence, ſeemed to riſe in proportion to its multiplying preſſures. 'Tis true his eſtate came charged with large family debts to his ſucceſſor, whoſe care and prudence ſoon diſincumbered it; a taſk the leſs difficult, as the improvements beforementioned were laſting, paid their own charge, and in moſt inſtances, proved the moſt eaſy and valuable kind of purchaſes.

But to return to Mr. *Newburgh*'s moral character, nothing but abſolute bed-rid ſickneſs, could at any time prevent his attendance on the ſervice of the church, or interrupt his (otherwiſe) conſtantly regular devotions, whether in the cloſet or family. *Prayer* he conſidered, not only

only as an indiſpenſible duty in itſelf, but as the neceſſary *means* to attain, to that degree of chriſtian perfection, he conſtantly laboured after.

In the earlier part of his life, *cant* and ſanctified *grimace*, ſtill continued to diſtort the minds and features of the pretended elect and godly. Mr. *Newburgh*'s judgment was too diſcerning to be miſlead by appearances:—his piety, too maſculine, too much governed by right reaſon, to receive any tincture from ſuperſtition, or hypocriſy. He had lived to ſee the unhappy fruits of thoſe factions, that had formerly rent, and ſtill continued to divide both church and ſtate. To the cauſe of both, he continued firm and inviolably attached, while with the principles of a truly chriſtian moderation, he marked thoſe that cauſed unneceſſary diviſions in either.

He died in his eighty-third year, of no other diſtemper but old age. In his middle ſtage of life, he had been haraſſed with many diſorders, which by great temperance and conſtant exerciſe, he had in a great meaſure got the better of: and what is extraordinary, with a clear head, and equal ſpirits, enjoyed a greater ſhare of health in his advanced years, than in his middle age.

As he conſtantly relieved the wants of the poor when living, he by no means forgot them at his death, having left thoſe of the pariſh he lived in, a generous benefaction, which to their great relief, was diſtributed among them, ſoon after his deceaſe. He lived greatly eſteemed and honoured in his country, as greatly lamented

mented in his death. Beſides the many uſeful monuments he raiſed to perpetuate his memory, he left an example of honour, public ſpirit and integrity, worthy of the imitation of thoſe that have ſucceeded him, or of others, who have the cauſe of virtue and religion truly at heart.

The following Character of the late BRO. NEWBURGH, *was wrote ſoon after his Death, by his late worthy Friend,* CHARLES COOTE, *Eſq; and intended for an Inſcription on his monumental Stone. The ſuffrage and teſtimony of ſo judicious and diſintereſted a Perſon, may ſerve to confirm the truth of the particulars before-mentioned.*

HIS long and active life
Was employed in the exerciſe
Of every virtue, and the diſcharge
Of every duty
Which, in his private ſtation
An excellent underſtanding,
A love for mankind,
An unweary'd diligence,
And a competent fortune,
Cou'd give any opportunity to exert.
How valuable he was, to his country,
His family, and his friends,
The manufactures he eſtabliſh'd,
The tracts of land
He improved, planted, and adorn'd:
The public roads made and repair'd,
By his inſpection;

And

And in many inſtances
At his own ſole coſt:
The numerous poor
Whoſe honeſt induſtry he ſupported,
Whoſe wants he reliev'd,
And whoſe cauſe he zealouſly eſpous'd,
Are laſting teſtimonies.
His life was a fair and clear example,
That juſtice and œconomy,
Are the only true foundation
For the enlarging a fortune:
And that the application of it
To the purpoſes of humanity,
Are its beſt uſe and preſervation:
And that no ſocial concern
Is too great or too little
For the attention of a good mind.
His death gave an evident proof
Of the lively hope of a good chriſtian.
And he met that great event
With a compoſure and cheerful reſignation
Which can only flow
From an humble confidence
That the thoughts of his heart
And the works of his hands
Through the merits of his Saviour
Wou'd meet with a gracious acceptance.

FINIS.

Wrote on a Thunder Shower
& Storm a'

Let Coward Guilt with pallid Fear
To Shelt'ring Caverns fly;
And justly dread the vengfull Fate
That thro'ders thro' the Sky

Protected by that hand whose Law
The threat'ning Storms obey
Intrepid Virtue smiles se
As in the blaze of Day.

In the thick Clouds tremendous Gloom
The Ligt'nings lurid Glare
It views the same all-gracious Power
That breathes in vernal Air

Thro' Natures ev'ry varying Scene,
By diff'rent ways pursu'd,
The one eternal End of Heavn
Is universal Good.

12 JU 62

With like benefcent Effect
Her flaming Ether glows
As when it tunes the Linnets Voice
Or blushes in the Rose

By Reason taught to scorn those Fears
That vulgar Minds molest,

No vain pleantes

Pro vacuis pecuniis